

NEWS

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Media Advisory

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DEPUTY SECRETARY ROMINGER TO VISIT FLORIDA FOR FARM FORUM

WASHINGTON, March 31, 1998 -- Deputy Secretary of Agriculture Richard Rominger will travel to Florida on Monday, April 6 to meet with farmers about issues affecting production agriculture.

"It's been just over a year since we implemented the '96 Farm bill -- and the historic changes it brought to production agriculture. So, I believe this is an ideal time to meet with farmers and ranchers across the country and get their views on how the new program is working," Rominger said.

The Farm Forum will be held at Congressman Allen Boyd's Farm in Asheville. The forum will begin at 1:00 p.m. and will end at 2:30 p.m. The event is open to the public. There will be a brief media availability immediately following the forum. The farm is on State Road 221, one-quarter mile north of County Road 146.

Before the Farm Forum, the Deputy Secretary will tour local watermelon and tobacco fields from 11:45 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. From I-10, take Route 257 north for about 4-5 miles. At the cemetery, go right, still on Route 257. The fields are approximately two miles down on the left side.

Other USDA officials attending the forum and local farm tour include Under Secretary for Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services Gus Schumacher and Deputy Assistant Secretary for Marketing and Regulatory Programs Isi Siddiqui.

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